Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-15. (Cancelled).

16. (Previously Presented) A method for monitoring a binding interaction of a steroid hormone receptor (SHR) with a test ligand comprising:

(a) contacting a fluorescently-labeled steroid hormone ligand with a steroid hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of an androgen receptor (AR), a glucocorticoid receptor (GR), and a progesterone receptor (PR), to form a reference mixture;

(b) measuring the fluorescence polarization of said reference mixture;

(c) contacting said reference mixture with said test ligand to form a test mixture;

(d) measuring the fluorescence polarization of said test mixture; and

(e) comparing the fluorescence polarization of said reference mixture to the fluorescence polarization of said test mixture to determine if said test ligand competes with said fluorescently-labeled steroid hormone ligand for binding to said steroid hormone receptor.

17. (Previously Presented) A method for monitoring a binding interaction of a steroid hormone receptor with a test ligand comprising:

(a) contacting a fluorescently-labeled steroid hormone ligand with a ligand binding domain (LBD) of a steroid hormone receptor selected from the group consisting of an androgen receptor (AR), a glucocorticoid receptor (GR), and a progesterone receptor (PR), to form a reference mixture;

(b) measuring the fluorescence polarization of said reference mixture;

(c) contacting the reference mixture with said test ligand to form a test mixture;

(d) measuring the fluorescence polarization of said test mixture; and

(e) comparing the fluorescence polarization of said reference mixture to the fluorescence polarization of said test mixture to determine if said test ligand competes with said fluorescently-labeled steroid hormone ligand for binding to the LBD of said steroid hormone receptor.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 or 17, wherein said fluorescently-labeled steroid hormone ligand includes a fluorescent label selected from the group consisting of fluorescein, fluoresceinamine, DTAF, Texas Red, BODIPY dyes, Alexa dyes, tetramethylrhodamine (TMR), and conjugatable derivatives thereof.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said ligand binding domain (LBD) of a steroid hormone receptor is fused to an N-terminal domain selected from the group consisting of glutathione-S-transferase (GST), maltose binding protein (MBP), and thioredoxin (TRX).

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 or 17, wherein said fluorescently-labeled steroid hormone ligand includes a steroid selected from the group consisting of 5α-androstan and derivatives thereof, 4-androsten and derivatives thereof, 4-pregnen and derivatives thereof, and dexamethasone and derivatives thereof.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~21~~ 16 or 17, wherein said fluorescently-labeled steroid hormone ligand binds to said steroid hormone with ~~high affinity is characterized by~~ a K_d of less than 20 nM.

23. (Cancelled).

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 or 17, wherein said fluorescently-labeled steroid hormone ligand is capable of competing with a known ligand of said steroid hormone receptor for binding to said steroid hormone receptor.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, said fluorescent label is conjugated to said steroid hormone ligand via a linker.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said steroid is 5α-androstan derivatized at one or more of the 1, 3, 6, 7, 11, 15, 17, 18, or 19 positions with a linker conjugated to a fluorescent label.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said steroid is 4-androsten derivatized at one or more of the 1, 3, 6, 7, 11, 15, 17, 18, or 19 positions with a linker conjugated to a fluorescent label.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said steroid is 4-pregnen derivatized at one or more of the 3, 6, 7, 11, 17, 19, 20, or 21 positions with a linker conjugated to a fluorescent label.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said steroid is dexamethasone derivatized at position 21 with a linker conjugated to a fluorescent label.

30. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said K_d is 0.8±0.1 nM and wherein said steroid hormone receptor is GR.

31. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said K_d is 2.5 nM and wherein said steroid hormone receptor is PR.